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ITEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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January 27, 1993

Ms. Donna R. Searcy Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Reply Comments of Intellicall, Inc. Docket No. 92-237, Phase II

Dear Ms. Searcy:

Transmitted herewith on behalf of Intellicall, Inc. are an original and four (4) copies of its Reply Comments in the above-referenced proceeding.

Should any questions arise in connection with this filing, kindly contact the undersigned counsel directly. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn E. Shapiro

LES/jes Enclosures

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BEFORE THE

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Federal Communications Commission

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON, D. C.

In the Matter of)		
Administering of the North American Numbering Plan)) .)	CC Docket No. 9 Phase II	92-237
)		

REPLY COMMENTS OF INTELLICALL, INC.

Intellicall, Inc. ("Intellicall"), by its attorneys and pursuant to the Commission's October 29, 1992 Notice of Inquiry in the above-captioned proceeding, hereby submits its Reply Comments and states the following:

I. INTRODUCTION

In its Comments filed December 24, 1992, Intellicall argued that conversion to four digit carrier identification codes ("CICs") will be onerous and that the Commission should take steps to determine if this burden can be avoided, such as be reclaiming CICs assigned for non-access purposed.

The Comments demonstrate that the burden of converting to four digit CICs would fall not just on Intellicall, but on many equipment manufacturers, as well as the owners of pay telephone equipment that may be rendered obsolete. Thus, contrary to claims of LECs in this proceeding, there is no industry consensus on CIC conversion. The Commission must therefore closely examine alternatives to this conversion, such as the reclamation effort proposed by Intellicall and others.

II. CONTRARY TO THE POSITION OF MANY LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES, THERE IS NOT INDUSTRY CONSENSUS ON THE CONVERSION TO FOUR DIGIT CIC CODES

Many local exchange companies ("LECs") filing comments in this proceeding stated that there is industry consensus on the conversion to four digit CICs. <u>See</u> Comments of NYNEX at 2; Comments of Ameritech at 1-2; Comments of Southwestern Bell at 10; Comments of Bell South at 19-21; Comments of Pacific Telesis at 8; Comments of Bellcore at 9. Specifically, the LECs cite to the guidelines established under the auspices of the Industry Carriers Compatibility Forum ("ICCF") which mandate conversion to four digit CICs in the first half of 1995. While Intellicall does not dispute the effort that went into devising the ICCF Guidelines, they cannot be characterized as representing an industry consensus.

The "industry" is this instance is made up not only of carriers, but also equipment manufacturers, such as Intellicall, that would be required to make extensive equipment modifications to accommodate four digit CICs. As described in Intellicall's Comments at 4-5, to accommodate four digit CICs in all pay telephone equipment the electronics of many phones would have to be replaced or extensively modified. Further, the equipment of may private pay telephone providers would be rendered obsolete. This position is corroborated by The American Public Communications Council ("APCC") and the North American Telecommunications Association ("NATA"), both equipment manufacturer trade associations. See Comments of APCC at 4-5; Comments of NATA at 3-4.

The cost of such conversion is not trivial. In addition to the significant cost of modifying pay telephone equipment to accommodate four digit CICs, the customer confusion that would result from such a change must not be ignored. Millions of dollars have been spent implementing the "10XXX" access requirement and training consumers to use this form of access. If 10XXX" were replaced by "101XXXX" access codes, consumers would have to be retrained, and the equipment modification and consumer training expenditures will have been money down the drain. These costs extend beyond U.S. boundaries. See Comments of Unitel at 5.

The record demonstrates that there is no industry consensus. Neither Intellicall, nor any equipment manufacturer of which it is aware, participated in developing the ICCF Guidelines. Further, the comments in this proceeding indicate that consensus does not even exist among carriers, many of which support reclamation efforts as a solution to the current CIC shortage. See infra at Section III.

Intellicall urges the Commission to carefully consider alternative measures for preserving three digit CICs prior to resorting to a remedy the costs of which may very well outweigh the benefits. If the Commission were to mandate conversion to four digit CIC codes without conducting such an examination of alternatives, it would be encouraging inefficiency in the industry as opposed to conservation.

III. THE COMMISSION SHOULD CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO MANDATING FOUR DIGIT CODES

Several commenters argue that there is no alternative to conversion to four digit codes. See e.g. Comments of Southwestern Bell at 10; Comments of USTA at 10-11. However, as stated in its December 24, 1992 Comments, Intellicall believes that an examination of current uses and users of CICs will show that many CICs are currently being used for purposes other than carrier access dialing, and that such codes may be available for reassignment. The result of such reassignment would be more efficient use of available three digit CIC codes, thereby avoiding the need to convert to four digit codes. This position was supported by other commenters. See e.g. Comments of Centel at 4; Comments of Ad Hoc Communications Users at 34. Comments of American Public Communications Council at 6; Comments of North American Telecommunications Association at 5-6; Comments of North Pittsburgh Telephone Co. at 4. Still others argued that the transition to four digit CICs should be delayed as long as possible. See Comments of AT&T at 8; Comments of Sprint at 10-11.

Contrary to the position that no alternatives to four digit conversion exist, there is clearly support for a reclamation effort as a first step toward curing the current CIC shortage. As the cost of such an effort is minimal, particularly in comparison to the massive expenditures required to convert to four digit CICs, it would be prudent policy to, at a minimum, examine whether there are alternatives to current nonessential CIC uses.

The ICCF CIC Administrative Guidelines contain a procedures for reclaiming CICs not being used for access purposes. See ICCF Guideline 5.2 and 5.3, attached as Exhibit 1. Guideline 5.2 provides that CICs not being used for access service will be reclaimed after a six month period. The reclaimed code will then be made available for reassignment after an idle period of at least six months. Guideline 5.3 provides that where there is no usage associated with a given CIC for two consecutive quarters, the CIC may be subject to reclamation.

Intellicall supports these reclamation procedures. However, it believes that unnecessary delays are built in. There is no need for a reclaimed code to remain idle for a six month period. Such codes should be available for reassignment as soon as administratively possible after reclamation, ensuring that the maximum number of CICs are available for assignment at any given time. Further, a determination that a CIC is not being used can be made before two quarters have passed. The fact that CICs are limited in number should serve as an incentive to move expeditiously in reclaiming codes and may obviate the need for a conversion to four digit codes.

IV. CONCLUSION

Neither Intellicall, nor any equipment manufacturer of which is aware, is a party to an "industry consensus" in favor of four digit CICs. No such "consensus" exists. The burdens that conversion to four digit CICs would generate for manufacturers, pay telephone providers and consumers are large and undisputed.

Before imposing these burdens, the Commission should examine whether the alleged shortage of CICs can be cured through less drastic means, including those suggested in the record.

Respectfully submitted,

INTELLICALL, INC.

Bv:

udith St. Ledger-Roty

Lynn E. Shapiro Its Attorneys

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Dated: January 27, 1993

EXHIBIT 1

ICCF CIC ADMINISTRATIVE
GUIDELINE 5.2

Under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee

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> Madeline Bogdan Moderator Room: 4D249 Phone: 201 740-4612

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CIC

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

ICCF Administrative Guidelines
Task Force

Co-Chairs

Mike Bennett Southwestern Bell

> Bob Hirsch AT&T

Sponsored by the Exchange Carriers
Standards Association

An entity can be assigned a maximum of two "special use" CICs. It is expected that such codes will be required infrequently and that few "special use" codes will be assigned. The industry will review the category of "special use" CICs annually, but will meet at the time the NANPA assigns the second "special use" code to a specific entity in order to examine the needs which required the assignments and, if necessary, to consider a change to the assignment limits.

4.5 CIC Limit Review

The number of CICs assignable per entity will be reviewed annually, beginning one year after the introduction of four digit FG B codes, or when needed as determined by the industry. It is intended that these reviews investigate the potential for further expansion of the number of codes per entity.

5.0 Disposition of Codes

5.1 Requirement for Code Retention

It is expected that CICs, when assigned, will be placed in service within a reasonable time. Specifically, access service associated with the CIC must be obtained, and the CIC must show usage. Absent such service and usage, a reclamation process will be initiated consistent with Sections 5.2 and 5.3.*

5.2 Requirement for Access

If access service associated with a CIC has not been established within four months of the date of code assignment, the NANPA will inquire regarding the status of the CIC and, if appropriate, a certified letter will be sent to the entity initiating the reclamation process. The letter will state that the NANPA intends to reclaim the CIC at the end of a 60 day period if access service has not been established. The entity will also be notified by letter if the code assignment is withdrawn.

Any code reclaimed will be made available for assignment by the NANPA after an idle period of at least six months.

^{*} Reclamation Process: The procedure whereby NANP administration, as maintenance agent for the CIC assignment guidelines, recovers codes which do not meet the requirements specified in the guidelines. (Note: NANP administration has the responsibility to attempt to recover numbering resources, especially unused numbering resources, as the situation requires. These guidelines confer no enforcement authority. Actual enforcement authority resides with the appropriate governmental or regulatory body.)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Janette E. Scheerer, a secretary in the law office of Reed Smith Shaw & McClay, do hereby certify that I have, on this 27th day of January, 1993, had a true and correct copy of the foregoing REPLY COMMENTS of Intellicall, Inc. mailed by U.S. first class mail, postage pre-paid, to the people listed on the attached service list.

Janette E. Scheerer

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